

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application is a divisional of earlier application Serial No. 09/720,990 filed January 3, 2001, allowed September 22, 2003. The claims in the parent application were the subject of a requirement for restriction in an Official Action dated November 18, 2002, Paper No. 5, copy attached. The claims elected and examined were those in which R¹ was a non-heteroatom. The claims in the present application are directed to subject matter that was not examined in the parent application.

Claim 43 is directed to a method of adhering or sealing at least one surface according to the procedures and use of the material set out in that claim.

A sealant has two modes of use -- one use is a surface sealant like a varnish or paint to stop the ingress of water or other liquids or gases etc, (or indeed a semi-permeable membrane page 2 of the description). The other use of a sealant would be that in a bathroom or kitchen where the sealant provides a seal between the bath and tiles (or any two surfaces) to stop ingress between the two surfaces and the claims presented above are consistent with this description. Applicants' definition of a sealant and adhesive are on page 2, lines 7-23 of the specification.

In claim 43 R¹ is defined as being a heteroatom or substituted heteroatom which has electron withdrawing properties (see original claim 9) and R⁶ is one of the five groups listed (see original claims 14-16).

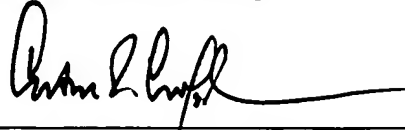
Examination of the above claims is requested taking into account the prior art of record in the parent application as listed in the attached concurrently filed Information Disclosure Statement.

BLACKWOOD et al
Appl. No. To be Assigned
December 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

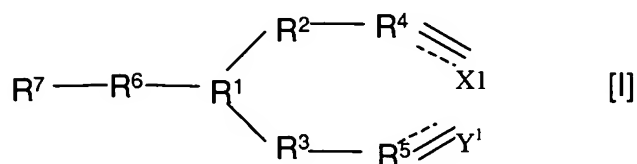


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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An adhesive or sealant composition comprising a compound of formula (I)



provided that at least one of (a) R¹ and R⁶ or (b) R² and R³ or (c) R⁴ and R⁵ includes an electron withdrawing group; and where necessary, a polymerization initiator. Novel compounds of formula (I) are also described and claimed. Adhesive compositions can be used to bond for example glass and metal surfaces. Certain biocompatible adhesives for medical applications are included.